

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
First Reader

House Bill 686  
Economic Matters

(Delegate Arentz, *et al.*)

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Queen Anne's County - Alcoholic Beverages - Board of License Commissioners

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This bill alters the hiring authority of the Queen Anne's County Board of License Commissioners. The bill specifies that the Queen Anne's County Commissioners, rather than the board, may employ and set the compensation for specified employees of the board. In addition, the bill specifies that the county commissioners, with the advice of the board, must appoint an attorney at a salary set by the county commissioners. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The bill is not anticipated to materially affect Queen Anne's County finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** The board may employ a secretary, inspectors, and clerical and other assistants as necessary, in addition to setting the compensation of these employees. The county commissioners must appoint an attorney, and the attorney must handle the legal matters for the board. There is no requirement that the board offer advice to the county commissioners when hiring an attorney.

**Background:** In fiscal 2019, there were 91 alcoholic beverages licenses issued in Queen Anne's County.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Queen Anne's County; Comptroller's Office; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 11, 2020  
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